1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

PART II. — MATERIAL CULTURE AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION.

I. THE COUNTRY OF THE KORYAK.

131 Present and Former Extent of the Koryak Territory. — The boundaries of the Koryak territory have somewhat changed since the advent of the Russians to that region. Prior to the time when the Russians came in contact with the Koryak, the latter reached as far as Tauysk. The first encounter between the Russians and the Koryak, according to the reports of the Cossacks, took place in the Tauysk settlement. There were at that time villages of Maritime Koryak all along the western shore of the Okhotsk Sea and Gishiga Bay, and upon the adjacent rocky islands between the mouth of the Gishiga River and Tauysk.

101 131 At present the inhabitants of Tauysk are officially classified as Yakut who were transferred thither from Yakutsk; but, as a matter of fact, they are a mixture of Yakut, Cossacks, and Tungus. Farther north — if we exclude the villages of Yamsk, Tumanskoye, and Nayakhan, whose inhabitants have become Russianized, and who have become physically intermixed with other tribes, Russians, Tungus, and Yakut — the Varkhalam River, in the valley of which some Reindeer Koryak still wander, may now be regarded as the border-line of the Koryak territory northwest of the Okhotsk Sea.

175 131 According to the Russian annals, the Koryak spread in Kamchatka as far as the Tighil River, on which, in the time of Krasheninnikoff, Koryak villages were still to be found.[1] Dittmar, in 1853, drew the boundary-line between the Koryak and the Kamchadal below the fifty-seventh degree of north latitude, somewhat to the south of the village of Oserna on the Bering Sea side, and of Voyampolka on the Okhotsk Sea.[2]

Krasheninnikoff mentions[3] a group of Koryak who in his time lived along the Imatkha River, a tributary of the Avacha, not far from Petropavlovsk. According to Krasheninnikoff, this group of Koryak formerly belonged to the nomadic Reindeer branch; but, their reindeer having been driven away by

[1] Krasheninnikoff, I, p. 32.
[2] Krasheninnikoff, I, p. 50.
[3] See Dittmar, Reisen in Kamchatka; and Part I of this volume, map.

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

enemies, they settled down in one place. At the same time, however, they refrained from forming ties of kinship with the Kamchadal, thus preserving their language and customs intact. Now they have become Russianized, like the Kamchadal, and in no way differ from them. "Koryaki,"[1] the name of their settlement, is the sole reminder of their origin.

At the present time the camps of the Reindeer Koryak reach as far south along the western slope of the Kamchatka Ridge as the fifty-fifth degree of north latitude:[1] and, according to Slunin, a few families will sometimes even reach Bolsheretzk.[2] The Reindeer Koryak have also spread farther northward than at the time of the intertribal wars. Then, according to tradition, the southern Chukchee camps were separated from the northern Koryak camps by a stretch of desert land, which the Chukchee would cross from time to time to attack the Koryak. Now the Chukchee and Koryak camps wander peacefully together upon the table-land of the Palpal.

I am inclined to suppose that no changes have occurred in the distribution of the Koryak in the northeastern region. The northeastern branch of the Koryak, the Kerek, have held themselves aloof from Russian influence, and until recently have been very little known.

The western boundary-line of the Koryak territory is formed, now as formerly, by the Stanovoi, or, as Maydell calls it, the Kolyma Ridge. But in winter, for purposes of squirrel-hunting, a few camps wander across the Stanovoi Ridge into the region of the Kolyma River, as far as its tributaries Omolon and Korkodon, and return in the spring. According to traditions of the Korkodon Yukaghir, the Koryak in olden times crossed the Stanovoi Ridge to wage war against them.

At the present time the Koryak territory is situated mainly in the two districts of Gishiga and Petropavlovsk. The Gishiga district has an area of 81,553 square miles, and that of Petropavlovsk 149,467 square miles. According to official data, there are in the Gishiga district 0.9 inhabitants to a square mile, and in that of Petropavlovsk 0.45 inhabitants to a square mile. The population is, of course, concentrated near the mouths of the rivers, in the river-valleys, and in places where reindeer-food is abundant. Between these inhabited places are large stretches of uninhabited desert land.

To understand Koryak culture in so far as it depends upon environment, it is necessary to give here a brief description of the nature of that region.

Orography. — The Koryak territory may be called a highland rather than a lowland country, but nowhere do the elevations reach any considerable height. They are either spurs of mountain-chains which lie outside of the Koryak country, or are small elevations forming the watersheds within the country. The Stanovoi Ridge sends a few such small spurs eastward, which

[1] See Part I, map.

[2] See Slunin, I, p. 430.

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 R14 Koryak R14

III. — HABITAT AND VILLAGES.

WANDERING-PLACES OF THE REINDEER KORYAK. — At the present time, Reindeer Koryak are found mainly in two of the four districts into which, for administrative purposes, the Russians have divided the northeastern part of the Maritime Province; namely, in the Gishiga and Kamchatka districts. Only five families were found in the Anadyr district, while in the Okhotsk district but a few men were left.

The greater part of the Reindeer Koryak roam over the Gishiga district. They keep to the interior of the country, and frequent mainly elevated, treeless tundras covered with lichen. During severe frosts they come down to the valleys, where the trees offer protection from the winds, and supply fuel for their fires. In summer the Reindeer Koryak ascend with their herds to the summits or high mountain slopes. The winds that blow freely there, the low temperature, and the never-melting snow of the gorges and ravines, free those locations from mosquitoes, which in summer are so abundant in low and woody places. For the same reason the Chukchee of the extreme north drive their herds in summer to the open tundras of the cold shores of the Arctic Ocean.

The Reindeer Koryak usually wander in groups consisting of a few families. There are no definite boundaries between the wandering-places of the various groups. It sometimes happens that separate families wander far from their native places, leaving the groups to which they originally belonged for one reason or another; as, for instance, on account of quarrels, lack of pastures in the old places for their reindeer, or the establishment through marriage of new family ties. I met families on the Palpal Mountains whose native place was on the Taigonos Peninsula, while, on the other hand, among the Taigonos Koryak there are people who have come from the Far East. According to Patkanov's statement, some members of the Opuka Reindeer Koryak are found on the Gishiga River, and a few families of the Gishiga Reindeer Koryak wander on the Palpal Mountains. On the whole, every group has its own wandering-places, though the limits are not well defined. Within this region, single families, or small groups of families, have their chosen places where they spend certain seasons of the year.

Thus the Reindeer Koryak form territorial groups. For purposes of taxation the majority of these groups are called "clans" (Родъ) by the Russian Administration, and the tribute levied on them was formerly paid off in furs only, but at present they are at liberty to pay either in money or in furs. Elders are appointed for each of these clans. The Koryak themselves do

1: Jochelson E-5 (1900-01) 1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

of Avekova River belong to the Maritime Koryak of the Second Paren clan, and 14 Reindeer people (9 men, 5 women) of Parapol Dol are of the First Kamenski clan. I myself have not heard that the Paren people have relatives among the Reindeer Koryak; but I know three Koryak in the Kamenskoye settlement, who, being traders, have purchased reindeer. However, they themselves do not take them out to pasture, but leave them in the care of permanent Reindeer Koryak.

The total number of Reindeer Koryak of the Gishiga district, united by ties of kinship with the villages of the Maritime Koryak, or originating from them, and considered as belonging to those settlements, consists, according to Patkanov's information, of 461 persons (236 men, 225 women). Detailed numbers of the groups of these Reindeer Koryak will be given in enumerating the villages and clans of the Maritime Koryak of the Gishiga district.

Thus we see that the data relating to the numbers of the Reindeer Koryak of the Gishiga district are both incomplete and contradictory; but it may be said in general that 2389,[1] the total figure of Patkanov for the number of the Reindeer Koryak in the Gishiga district, is approximately correct.

Petropavlovsk District. — The Reindeer Koryak of the Petropavlovsk district wander over the mountains, from the boundaries of the district, almost to the 55th degree north latitude. They may be divided into two groups.

1. The first group, consisting, according to official statistics, of two clans: the First Nomadic Clan (Первый кочевой родъ) of 272 persons; the Second Nomadic Clan (Второй кочевой родъ) of 284 persons. This makes a total of 556 persons. According to Patkanov, the first clan consists of 444 persons, and the second of 312 persons, or 756 persons all together.

2. The second group, to which belong 528 Reindeer Koryak enumerated in the census of 1897. These include, according to Patkanov,[2] Reindeer people belonging to the settlements of the Maritime Koryak, and Reindeer Koryak proper who moved thither from the Gishiga district. No detailed information as to the respective numbers of each separate group is given, but it is pointed out that the latter are the more numerous.

In all probability, the Reindeer Koryak proper, or a part of them, who had wandered thither from the Gishiga district, constitute the clan of the Gishiga district, which, as we saw, seems to have disappeared in 1850. As to the Reindeer Koryak of the Petropavlovsk district classed by the Administration as belonging to the settlements of the Maritime Koryak, we find, according to Mr. Bogoras, that there are 61 nomad Koryak belonging to the Lesnovskoye settlement. The total number of Reindeer Koryak in the Petropavlovsk district is, according to the last census, 1284 persons.[3]

[1] See Patkanov, p. 17. [2] See Patkanov, p. 20. [3] See Patkanov, p. 18.

1:Jochelson E-5 (1900-01)1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

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MAP SHOWING PRESENT DISTRIBUTION OF TRIBES IN NORTHEASTERN SIBERIA.

Tungus or Lamut. | Yakut. | Russian and Russianized natives. | Eskimo. | Chukchee.

Russian or Russianized natives. | Eskimo & Chukchee mixed. | Eskimo

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k:Jochelson E-5 (1900-01)1908 RY4 Koryak RY4

NORTHEASTERN SIBERIA. By WALDEMAR BOGORAS and WALDEMAR JOCHELSON.

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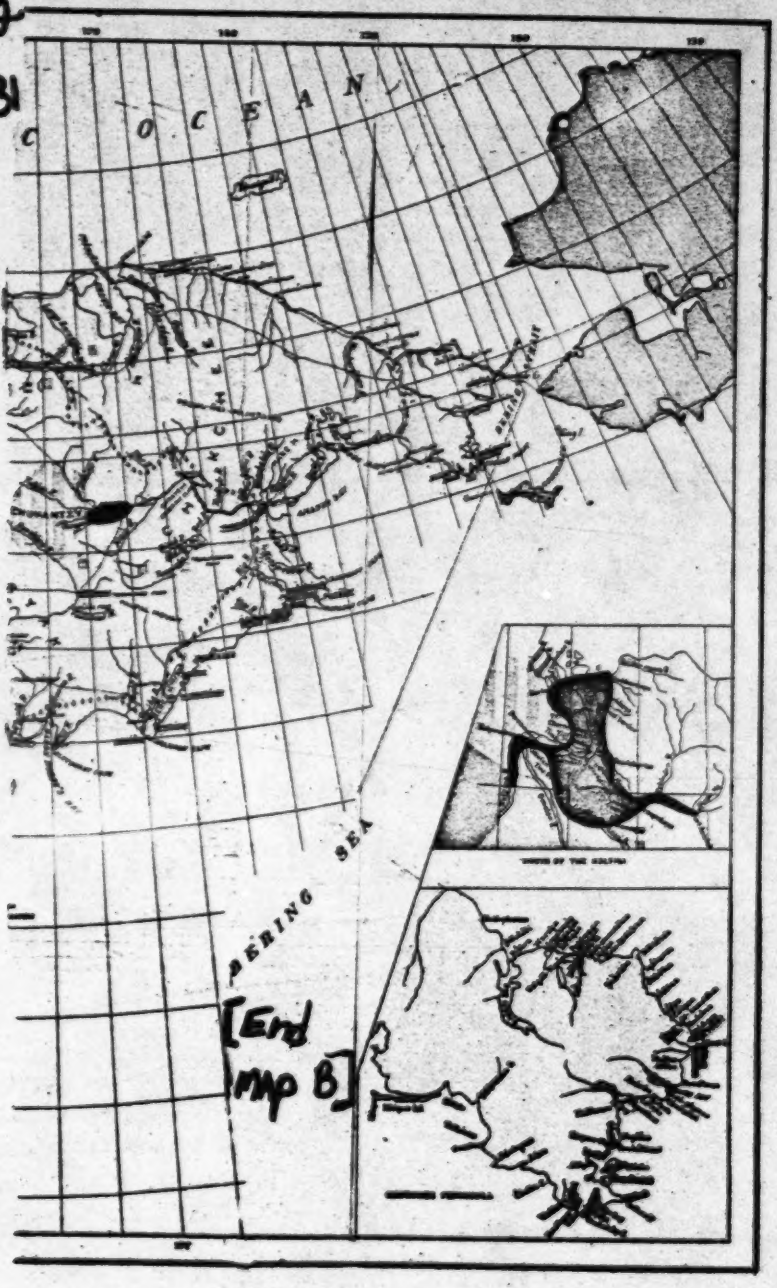

11: Kennan--52-54 T-3 (1865) 1870 Koryak-1-2
116, 131

"The peninsula of Kamtchatka, through which we were about to travel, is a long irregular tongue of land lying east of the Okhotsk Sea, between the fifty-first and sixty-[53] second degrees of North latitude, and measuring in extreme length about seven hundred miles. It is almost entirely of volcanic formation, and the great range of rugged mountains by which it is longitudinally divided, comprises even now five or six volcanoes in a state of almost uninterrupted activity. This immense chain of mountains, which has never even been named, stretches from the fifty-first to the sixtieth degree of latitude in one almost continuous ridge, and at last breaks off abruptly into the Okhotsk Sea, leaving to the northward a high level steppe called the 'dole' or desert, which is the wandering ground of the Reindeer Koraks. The central and southern parts of the peninsula are broken up by the spurs and foot hills of the great mountain range into deep sequestered valleys of the wildest and most picturesque character, and afford scenery which, for majestic and varied beauty, is not surpassed in all Northern Asia. The climate everywhere, except in the extreme north, is comparatively mild and equable, and the vegetation has an almost tropical freshness and luxuriance totally at variance with all one's ideas of Kamtchatka. The population of the peninsula I estimate from careful observation at about 5,000, and it is made up of three distinct classes--the Russians, the Kamchadals or settled natives, and the Wandering Koraks. ...[54]... The Wandering Koraks, who are the wildest, most powerful, and most independent natives in the peninsula, seldom come south of the 58th parallel of latitude, except for the purpose of trade. Their

chosen haunts are the great desolate steppes lying east of Penjinsk Gulf, where they wander constantly from place to place in solitary bands, living in large fur tents and depending for subsistence upon their vast herds of tamed and domesticated reindeer."

11: Kennan--181-182 T-3 (1865) 1870 Koryak
116, 131, 233, 621 Reindeer

"The Wandering Koraks of Kamtchatka, who are divided into about forty different bands, roam over the great steppes in the northern part of the peninsula, between the 58th and 63rd parallels of latitude. Their southern limit is the settlement of Tigil, on the west coast, where they come annually to trade, and they are rarely found north of the village of Penzhina, two hundred miles from the head of the Okhotsk Sea. Within these limits they wander almost constantly with their great herds of reindeer, and so unsettled and restless are they in their habits, that they seldom camp longer than a week in any one place. This, however, is not attributable altogether to restlessness or love of change. A herd of four or five thousand reindeer will in a very few days paw up the snow and eat all the moss within a radius of a mile from the encampment, and then, of course, the band must move to fresh ground. Their nomadic life, therefore, is not entirely a choice, but partly a necessity, growing out of their dependence upon the reindeer. They must wander or their deer will starve, and then their own starvation follows as a natural consequence. Their unsettled mode of life probably grew, in the first place, out of the domestication of the reindeer, and the necessity which it involved of consulting first the reindeer's wants; but the [182] restless, vagabondish habits thus produced have now become a part of the Korak's very nature, so that he could hardly live in any other way, even had he an opportunity of so doing."

23: Krasheninnikov N-3 (1736-40) 1764 Koryak

CHAP. XX.

THIS chapter in the original contains an account of three different dialects of the *Kamtſchadales*; which, as they are very unintelligible to an *Engliſh* reader, we thought proper to omit.

CHAP. XXI.

Of the NATION *of the* KOREKI.

AS the *Koreki* and *Kuriles* agree in moſt of their cuſtoms and habits with the *Kamtſchadales*, we ſhall only take notice of thoſe things wherein they differ from them or from one another. The *Koreki*, as is above related, are divided into the rein-deer or wandering *Koreki*; and thoſe that are fixed in one place who live in huts in the earth like the *Kamtſchadales*, and in every other reſpect indeed reſemble them; ſo that whatever remarks we make are to be underſtood of the wandering *Koreki*, unleſs otherwiſe expreſſed.

The fixed *Koreki* live along the coaſt of the Eaſtern Ocean, from the river *Ukoi* as far as the *Anadir*, and along the coaſt of the ſea of *Penſchina* round the *Penſchina* bay to the ridge *Nuktchatmnin*, out of which the river *Nuktchan* riſes. From theſe rivers they take different appellations, by which they are diſtinguiſhed one from another. The wandering *Koreki* ſojourn with their herds of deer, and extend from

23: Krasheninnikov N-3 (1736-40) 1764 Koryak

from the Eaſtern Ocean weſt to the head of the rivers *Penſchina* and *Omolona*, north to the *Anadir*, and ſouth to the rivers *Leſnaya* and *Karaga*. Sometimes they come even over theſe bounds, approaching very near to *Kamtſchatka*; but this indeed happens very ſeldom, and only when they are afraid of the *Tchukotſkoi*, who are their moſt dangerous neighbours. The people that they border upon are the *Kamtſchadales*, the *Tchukotſkoi*, *Ukageri*, and the *Tunguſi* or *Lamuti*.

The *Tcukotſkoi* ſhould be accounted a race of the *Koreki*, which in truth they are; if ſo, then it may be ſaid that the country of the *Koreki* is of far greater extent, for the *Tchukotſkoi* poſſeſs northward from the river *Anadir* as far as the *Tchukotſkoi* promontory. Indeed, thoſe *Tchukotſkoi* that live north of the river *Anadir* are not ſubject to the empire of *Ruſſia*, but frequently make incurſions upon thoſe that are, both *Koreki* and *Tchukotſkoi*, killing and making them priſoners, and driving off their herds of deer. In the ſummer time they fiſh not only in the ſeas near the mouth of the *Anadir*, but even come up the river a great way, when thoſe people who are ſubjects to *Ruſſia* frequently fall into their hands.

The *Koreki* differ not only in their manners from one another, but alſo in the form of their bodies. The wandering *Koreki*, as far as I could obſerve, are of ſmall ſtature, and very lean; they have ſmall heads, and black hair, which they ſhave every day; their face is oval, their eyes ſmall, eyebrows hanging, noſe ſhort, mouth large, and their beard black and pointed, which they frequently pluck. The fixed *Koreki*, though not of a very large ſtature, are however taller than the former, and thicker and ſtronger made; eſpecially thoſe that live towards the north, who reſemble a good deal the *Kamtſchadales* and *Tchukotſkoi*.

There is beſides a very great difference in their cuſtoms and habits. The wandering *Koreki* are extremely jealous, and ſometimes kill their wives upon ſuſpicion only; but when any

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia
AINU AB6
TUNGUS RU5
KORYAKS R44

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Sakhalin which was entrusted, among other things, with 'raising the cultural and living standard of its native population', the Ainu in particular.[48]

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Three years after the establishment of Soviet sovereignty over Karafuto Russian propaganda claimed that 'a revival of the ancient, original culture of the Ainu people' was noticeable, and that an 'Ainu national literary language' was in the process of being created.[49]

THE 'NATIONAL AREAS' OF THE EVENI AND KORYAKS

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In 1930 three 'National Areas' were founded in the Far Eastern Territory, one for the Eveni (Lamuts), one for the Koryaks, and one for the Chukchi. The last two are still in existence, but the 'National Area' of the Eveni – Okhotsko-Evensky National Area was the official name – was disbanded after four years. It is doubtful whether the Eveni National Area, which covered 400,000 square miles, ever existed except on paper. The Eveni as a nomad people were not prepared to accept the notion of a territory with stable frontiers and a permanently fixed cultural and political centre. The attempt to erect such a centre, first in Okhotsk, later in Nogayevo, failed.[50] The National Area of the Eveni was formally abolished as a result of the progress which Russian colonization by convicts had made around the Okhotsk Sea in the early 'thirties'. By 1934 the proportion of natives in the population of the National Area had dropped to 40 per cent as against 80 per cent shortly before its foundation.

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The Koryak National Area has been able to survive because the Soviet authorities have not yet succeeded in fully exploiting its riches, and have not, up to now, swamped the area with convicts and other settlers. The Koryak National Area covers the northern part of the Kamchatka peninsula, and the adjacent part of the Asiatic mainland. It is 125,000 square miles in area, and had 11,400 inhabitants in 1926. Out of this total, 61 per cent were then Koryaks, 8·9 per cent Chukchi, 7·1 per cent Kamchadals, and 5·5 per cent Eveni. The Russians accounted for 14·3 per cent.

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The leading Soviet expert on the arctic and sub-arctic regions of the Soviet Far East, M. A. Sergeev, considers that the Koryak National Area is, politically and economically, one of the most important parts of North East Asia, in view of its close proximity to Japan and the U.S.A. Sergeev, who wrote the only available monograph on the Koryak National Area, pointed out that the Area had a considerable part to play in Russian foreign trade, and that it could develop into a territory earning for the whole Soviet Union an appreciable amount of foreign currency.[51] Among the economic assets of the National Area Sergeev lists its riches in fish, reindeer and fur animals, as well as gold and oil. All these items should be used for export, whereas the chief importance